

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for rejuvenating the exposed surface of an article composed of a polymer, the method comprising the steps of:
  - 3 determining the solubility parameter of the polymer;
  - 4 providing a solvent that has a solubility parameter that is matched to 5 that of the polymer; and
  - 6 applying the solvent to the surface of the article.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, where the article comprises a vinyl resin.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, where the vinyl resin is poly(vinyl chloride).
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, where the solubility parameter of the solvent is within 2 1.8 (cal/cm<sup>3</sup>)<sup>1/2</sup> of the solubility parameter of the polymer.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, where the solubility parameter of the solvent is within 2 1.5 (cal/cm<sup>3</sup>)<sup>1/2</sup> of the solubility parameter of the polymer.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5, where the solubility parameter of the solvent is within 2 1.2 (cal/cm<sup>3</sup>)<sup>1/2</sup> of the solubility parameter of the polymer.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1, where the article comprises plastic.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1, where the article comprises rubber.